

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A remote control device, comprising:

a processor;

5 a transmitter in communication with the processor;

a receiver in communication with the processor; and

a smart card reader/writer in communication with the processor.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein the smart card reader/writer is adapted to receive a smart card having user-specific information and preferences stored thereon.

10 3. The device of claim 2, wherein the smart card has one of a processor and a memory.

4. The device of claim 2, wherein the smart card is of a type selected from the group consisting of a contact smart card, a contactless smart card, a combi smart card, and a hybrid smart card.

15 5. The device of claim 1, wherein the smart card reader/writer is selected from the group consisting of a manual insertion smart card reader/writer, a manual swipe smart card reader/writer, a motorized insertion smart card reader/writer, a hybrid smart card reader/writer, a TTL smart card reader/writer, an RS232 smart card reader/writer, and a proximity smart card reader/writer.

20 6. The device of claim 1, further comprising a storage area in communication with the processor.

7. A system, comprising:

a remote control device, the remote control device comprising:

a processor;

a remote control device transmitter in communication with the processor;  
a remote control device receiver in communication with the processor; and  
a smart card reader/writer in communication with the processor; and

an electronic device, the electronic device comprising:

5           a transmitter;  
  
          a receiver; and  
  
          an electronic program guide in communication with the transmitter and the  
receiver.

10           8. The system of claim 7, wherein the transmitter is selected from the group consisting of  
an infrared transmitter, a radio frequency transmitter, an X-10 transmitter, a pulsed-code  
transmitter, a sound wave transmitter, and a microwave transmitter.

15           9. The device of claim 7, wherein the smart card reader/writer is selected from the group  
consisting of a manual insertion smart card reader/writer, a manual swipe smart card  
reader/writer, a motorized insertion smart card reader/writer, a hybrid smart card reader/writer, a  
TTL smart card reader/writer, an RS232 smart card reader/writer, and a proximity smart card  
reader/writer.